

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of playing a poker-type card game comprising, in combination, the steps of:

dealing an initial predetermined number of cards;

identifying a first subgroup of said initial predetermined number of cards having a relatively high poker value as compared to a remaining number of said initial predetermined number of cards not in said first subgroup;

assigning said first subgroup having a higher poker value to a dealer as an initial dealer hand;

assigning said remaining number of said predetermined number of cards not in said first subgroup to at least one player as an initial player hand;

dealing a predetermined number of cards to said dealer to complete said dealer hand;

dealing a predetermined number of cards to said at least one player to complete each said at least one player hand;

conveying a predetermined poker advantage to said predetermined number of cards dealt to said at least one player to complete each said at least one player hand relative to said predetermined number of cards dealt to said dealer to complete

said dealer hand, wherein said poker advantage being at least one of a greater number of cards, cards having a higher poker value, and said at least one player having a selection choice of said cards;

comparing said completed poker hand value of said completed dealer hand with said completed poker hand value of each said completed player hand of each said at least one player; and

selecting as a winning hand whichever of said dealer hand and each said at least one player hand that has a higher poker value.

2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of receiving a first wager from said at least one player that a completed player hand will have a higher poker value than a completed dealer hand.

3. The method of Claim 2 further comprising the step of receiving a second wager from said at least one player that a completed player hand will have a higher poker value than a completed dealer hand.

4. The method of Claim 3 further comprising the step of limiting an amount of said second wager to an amount equal to one-half of said first wager.

5. The method of Claim 2 further comprising the step of paying each said at least one player an amount equal to said first wager when said completed player hand being a winning hand.

6. The method of Claim 3 further comprising the step of paying each said at least one player an amount equal to said second wager when said completed player hand being a winning hand.

7. The method of Claim 3 further comprising the step of collecting from each said at least one player at least one of said first wager amount and said second wager amount when said completed dealer hand being a winning hand.

8. The method of Claim 2 further comprising the step of receiving said first wager from said at least one player in two equal portions, each said two equal portions having a value of one-half said first wager.'

9. The method of Claim 2 further comprising the step of paying each said at least one player an amount equal to one-half of said first wager when said completed player hand being both a winning hand and said completed player hand failing to achieve a predetermined poker value.

10. The method of Claim 9 wherein said predetermined poker value being one of a pair and greater than a pair.

11. The method of Claim 2 further comprising the step of permitting a player to be eligible to receive a pre-determined bonus payout if at least one of said completed dealer hand and said completed player hand achieves a pre-determined poker value.

12. The method of Claim 11 further comprising the step of receiving a bonus wager from each said at least one player that at least one of said completed dealer hand and said completed player hand will achieve a predetermined poker value.

13. The method of Claim 12 further comprising the step of collecting said bonus wager from each said at least one player when at least one of said completed dealer hand and said completed player hand fails to achieve said predetermined poker value.

14. The method of Claim 1 wherein said initial predetermined number of cards being six cards and further comprising the steps of:

dealing six initial cards;

assigning said first subgroup having three cards to said dealer as an initial dealer hand; and

assigning said remaining three cards not in said first subgroup to at least one player as an initial player hand.

15. The method of Claim 14 further comprising the steps of:

dealing said dealer two additional cards;

determining a completed five-card poker hand value of said dealer hand based on said initial dealer hand of three cards and said two additional cards dealt to said dealer;

dealing each said at least one player three additional cards;

determining a completed five-card poker hand value for each said player hand based on said initial player hand of three cards and said three additional cards of each said at least one player;

comparing said completed poker hand value of said dealer hand and each said completed poker hand value of each said player hand, wherein the hand having the higher poker value being a winning hand; and

selecting as a winning hand whichever of said dealer hand and each said at least one player hand that has a higher poker value.

16. The method of Claim 15 further comprising the step of receiving a first wager from said at least one player that a completed player hand will have a higher poker value than a completed dealer hand.

17. The method of Claim 16 further comprising the step of receiving a second wager from said at least one player that a completed player hand will have a higher poker value than a completed dealer hand.

18. The method of Claim 17 further comprising the step of limiting an amount of said second wager to an amount equal to one-half of said first wager.

19. The method of Claim 16 further comprising the step of paying each said at least one player an amount equal to said first wager when said completed player hand being a winning hand.

20. The method of Claim 17 further comprising the step of paying each said at least one player an amount equal to said second wager when said completed player hand being a winning hand.

21. The method of Claim 17 further comprising the step of collecting from each said at least one player at least one of said first wager amount and said second wager amount when said completed dealer hand being a winning hand.

22. The method of Claim 16 further comprising the step of receiving said first wager from said at least one player in two equal portions, each said two equal portions having a value of one-half said first wager.

23. The method of Claim 16 further comprising the step of paying each said at least one player an amount equal to one-half of said first wager when said completed player hand being both a winning hand and said completed player hand failing to achieve a predetermined poker value.

24. The method of Claim 23 wherein said predetermined poker value being one of a pair and greater than a pair.

25. The method of Claim 16 further comprising the step of permitting a player to be eligible to receive a pre-determined bonus payout if at least one of said completed dealer hand and said completed player hand achieves a pre-determined poker value.

26. The method of Claim 25 further comprising the step of receiving a bonus wager from each said at least one player that at least one of said completed dealer hand and said completed player hand will achieve a predetermined poker value.

27. The method of Claim 26 further comprising the step of collecting said bonus wager from each said at least one player when at least one of said completed dealer hand and said completed player hand fails to achieve said predetermined poker value.

28. The method of Claim 14 further comprising the steps of:
dealing two of said three cards of said first subgroup face-up and one of said three cards of said first subgroup face down;
and

dealing two of said three cards of said remaining three cards not in said first subgroup face-up and one of said three cards of said remaining three cards not in said first subgroup face down.

29. The method of Claim 28 further comprising the steps of:
revealing the face down card of said first hand; and
revealing the face down card of said second hand.

30. The method of Claim 29 further comprising the steps of:

dealing said dealer two additional cards;

determining a completed five-card poker hand value of said dealer hand based on said initial dealer hand and said two additional cards dealt to said dealer;

dealing each said at least one player three additional cards;

determining a completed five-card poker hand value for each said player hand based on said initial player hand and said three additional cards of each said at least one player;

comparing said completed poker hand value of said dealer hand and each said completed poker hand value of each said player hand of each said at least one player, wherein the hand having the higher poker value being a winning hand; and

selecting as a winning hand whichever of said dealer hand and each said at least one player hand that has a higher poker value.

31. The method of Claim 28 further comprising the step of receiving a first wager from said at least one player that a completed player hand will have a higher poker value than a completed dealer hand.

32. The method of Claim 31 further comprising the step of receiving a second wager from said at least one player that a completed player hand will have a higher poker value than a completed dealer hand.

33. The method of Claim 32 further comprising the step of limiting an amount of said second wager to an amount equal to one-half of said first wager.

34. The method of Claim 31 further comprising the step of paying each said at least one player an amount equal to said first wager when said completed player hand being a winning hand.

35. The method of Claim 32 further comprising the step of paying each said at least one player an amount equal to said second wager when said completed player hand being a winning hand.

36. The method of Claim 32 further comprising the step of collecting from each said at least one player at least one of said first wager amount and said second wager amount when said completed dealer hand being a winning hand.

37. The method of Claim 31 further comprising the step of receiving said first wager from said at least one player in two equal portions, each said two equal portions having a value of one-half said first wager.

38. The method of Claim 31 further comprising the step of paying each said at least one player an amount equal to one-half of said first wager when said completed player hand being both a winning hand and said completed player hand failing to achieve a predetermined poker value.

39. The method of Claim 38 wherein said predetermined poker value being one of a pair and greater than a pair.

40. The method of Claim 14 further comprising the steps of:
assigning three cards comprised of two cards having a highest poker value of said six initial cards and one card having a lowest poker value of said six initial cards to said dealer as an initial dealer hand; and

assigning a remaining three cards of said six initial cards to said at least one player as an initial player hand.

41. The method of Claim 14 further comprising the steps of:

receiving a first wager from said at least one player that a completed player hand will have a higher poker value than a completed dealer hand;

dealing said six initial cards into a first hand having three cards face up and a second hand having three cards face down,

receiving a second wager from said at least one player that a completed player hand will have a higher poker value than a completed dealer hand;

exposing said face down cards of said second hand face up;

determining an initial poker hand value of said first hand;

determining an initial poker hand value of said second hand;

comparing said initial poker hand value of said first hand with said initial poker hand value of said second hand;

assigning whichever of said first hand and said second hand that has a higher initial poker hand value to a dealer as an initial dealer hand;

assigning whichever of said first hand and said second hand not assigned to said dealer to said at least one player as an initial player hand;

dealing said dealer two additional cards;

determining a completed five-card poker hand value of said dealer hand based on said initial dealer hand of three cards and said two additional cards dealt to said dealer;

dealing each said at least one player three additional cards;

determining a completed five-card poker hand value for each said player hand based on said initial player hand of three cards and said three additional cards of each said at least one player;

comparing said completed poker hand value of said dealer hand and each said completed poker hand value of each said player hand;

selecting as a winning hand whichever of said dealer hand and each said at least one player hand that has a higher poker value;

paying each said at least one player an amount equal to said first wager when said completed player hand being a winning hand;

paying each said at least one player an amount equal to said second wager when said completed player hand being a winning hand;
and

collecting from each said at least one player at least one of said first wager amount and said second wager amount when said completed dealer hand being a winning hand.

42. The method of Claim 14 further comprising the steps of:
dealing said dealer two additional cards;
dealing each said at least one player two additional cards;
permitting said dealer to replace a number of cards
previously received;

permitting each said at least one player to replace a number
of cards previously received, wherein each said at least one
player being permitted to replace a greater number of cards than
said dealer;

determining a completed five-card poker hand value of said
dealer hand based on said initial dealer hand of three cards and
said two additional cards dealt to said dealer and any replacement
cards;

determining a completed five-card poker hand value for each
said player hand based on said initial player hand of three cards
and said three additional cards and any replacement cards of each
said at least one player;

comparing said completed poker hand value of said dealer hand
and each said completed poker hand value of each said player hand;
and

selecting as a winning hand whichever of said dealer hand and
each said at least one player hand that has a higher poker value.

43. The method of Claim 1 wherein said completed player hand of each said at least one player being comprised of three cards and wherein said completed dealer hand being comprised of three cards.

44. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
providing a video gaming machine; and

displaying said poker-type card on said video gaming machine.

45. The method of Claim 1 wherein said predetermined number of cards of said initial player hand being community cards to be used by each said at least one player and wherein said predetermined number of cards to complete each player hand are dealt individually to each said at least one player and wherein said completed player hand comprises a combination of said community cards of said initial player hand and said predetermined number of cards dealt individually to each said at least one player.

46. The method of Claim 14 wherein comparing said initial poker hand value of said first hand with said initial poker hand value of said second hand being determined whereby any pair has a higher hand value than any three unmatched cards, wherein any three of a kind has a higher hand value than any pair, wherein a higher pair has a higher poker value than a lower pair, wherein a higher three of a kind has a higher poker value than a lower three of a kind, wherein said first hand and said second hand having pairs of equal value a higher third card determines a higher poker hand value, wherein said first hand and said second hand each having three unmatched cards the hand with a highest card has a higher poker value, wherein said first hand and said second hand each having three unmatched cards and said highest card of said first hand and said highest card of said second hand being of equal value then the hand having the second highest card has a higher poker value, wherein said first hand and said second hand each having three unmatched cards and said highest card of said first hand and said highest card of said second hand being of equal value and said second highest card of said first hand and said second highest card of said second hand being of equal value the hand having the third highest card has a higher poker value.

47. A method of playing a poker-type card game comprising, in combination, the steps of:

dealing an initial predetermined number of cards;

identifying a first subgroup of said predetermined number of cards having a relatively high poker value as compared to a remaining number of said predetermined number of cards not in said first subgroup;

assigning said first subgroup having a higher poker value to at least one player as an initial player hand;

assigning said remaining number of said predetermined number of cards not in said first subgroup to a dealer as an initial dealer hand;

dealing a predetermined number of cards to said dealer to complete said dealer hand;

conveying a predetermined poker advantage to said predetermined number of cards dealt to said dealer to complete said dealer hand relative to said predetermined number of cards dealt to said at least one player to complete each said at least one player hand, wherein said poker advantage being at least one of a greater number of cards, cards having a higher poker value, and said dealer having a selection choice of said cards;

comparing said completed poker hand value of said completed dealer hand with said completed poker hand value of each said completed player hand of each said at least one player; and

selecting as a winning hand whichever of said dealer hand and each said at least one player hand that has a higher poker value.

48. A poker-type card game table comprising, in combination:

- a table having a dealer hand area dimensioned to receive at least one playing card and at least one player hand area dimensioned to receive at least one playing card; and
- a plurality of individual betting locations located proximate an outer perimeter of said table, each of said individual betting locations having:
 - an ante wagering area designated for wagering a first amount that a completed player hand will have a higher poker value than a completed dealer hand;
 - a bet wagering area designated for wagering a second amount that a completed player hand will have a higher poker value than a completed dealer hand; and
 - a raise wagering area designated for wagering a third amount that a completed player hand will have a higher poker value than a completed dealer hand.

49. The poker-type card game table of Claim 48 further comprising a bonus wagering area proximate each of said plurality of individual betting locations, said bonus wagering area designated for wagering that one of said player hand and said dealer hand will achieve a poker hand having a pre-determined poker value.

50. A method of playing a combination blackjack and poker-type card game comprising, in combination, the steps of:

dealing at least one player blackjack hand to at least one player;

dealing a dealer blackjack hand to a dealer;

comparing said at least one player blackjack hand to said dealer blackjack hand;

selecting as a winning hand whichever of said dealer blackjack hand and each said at least one player blackjack hand that has a higher blackjack value;

one of dealing, removing and not dealing at least one card to said at least one player blackjack hand to achieve a first initial poker hand of three cards;

one of dealing, removing and not dealing at least one card to said dealer blackjack hand to achieve a second initial poker hand of three cards;

comparing said initial poker hand value of said first hand with said initial poker hand value of said second hand;

assigning whichever of said first hand and said second hand that has a higher initial poker hand value to a dealer as an initial dealer hand;

assigning whichever of said first hand and said second hand not assigned to said dealer to said at least one player as an initial player hand;

dealing said dealer two additional cards to complete said dealer hand;

determining a completed five-card poker hand value of said dealer hand based on said initial dealer hand of three cards and said two additional cards dealt to said dealer;

dealing each said at least one player additional cards to complete said player hand;

conveying a predetermined poker advantage to said predetermined number of cards dealt to said at least one player to complete each said at least one player hand relative to said predetermined number of cards dealt to said dealer to complete said dealer hand, wherein said poker advantage being at least one of a greater number of cards, cards having a higher poker value, and said at least one player having a selection choice of said cards;

comparing said completed poker hand value of said completed dealer hand with said completed poker hand value of each said completed player hand of each said at least one player; and

selecting as a winning hand whichever of said dealer hand and each said at least one player hand that has a higher poker value.